



Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board

தமிழ்நாடு உயிரிப்பல்வகைமை வாரியம்

ANNUAL REPORT

2020-2021



Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board

Annual Report

2020-2021

TBGP- Office Complex, II floor,
Velachery - Tambaram main Road,
Nanmangalam, Medavakkam Post,
Chennai - 600100

December 2021

Table of contents

S.No	Title	Page number	
1	Introduction	1	
2	Genesis of the Board	2	
3	Board Members	5	
4	Expert Committees (ECs)	7	
5	Board Meetings	9 th Board Meeting	13
6	Activities	Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs)	15
		People's Biodiversity Registers (PBRs)	16
		Technical Support Group (TSG)	21
		Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS)	21
		International Biodiversity Day Celebrations	29
		Appointment of Nodal Officer	32
7	Audit report	34	
8	Visits to the Board by Experts, Important persons	38	
9	Details of Officers	40	

Introduction

Encapsulated in the present volume is a summary of the Board's activities and events that took place during 2020-21. The period saw the virulent spread of Covid 19 pandemic which continues to plague the world, having impacted the lives, livelihoods and lifestyles of millions of people all over the world. The pandemic is a grim reminder of, among other things, the intricate relationship that exists between humans and nature. It is in no uncertain terms a pointer to the need for "Living in Harmony with Nature" and calls for sustained collective efforts to maintain the fragile ecological balance through biodiversity conservation which occupies a pivotal position in this process.

Tamil Nadu is one of the mega bio-diverse states of the country, being endowed with a bounty of rich biodiversity right from coastal marine ecosystems in the Gulf of Mannar to terrestrial evergreen forests in the Western Ghats. Out of the 16809 species of flowering plants in India, Tamil Nadu ranks first in species richness with 5674 taxa. The faunal diversity is also equally impressive which includes 165 species of fresh water fishes, 76 species of amphibians, 177 species of reptiles, 454 species of birds and 187 species of mammals.

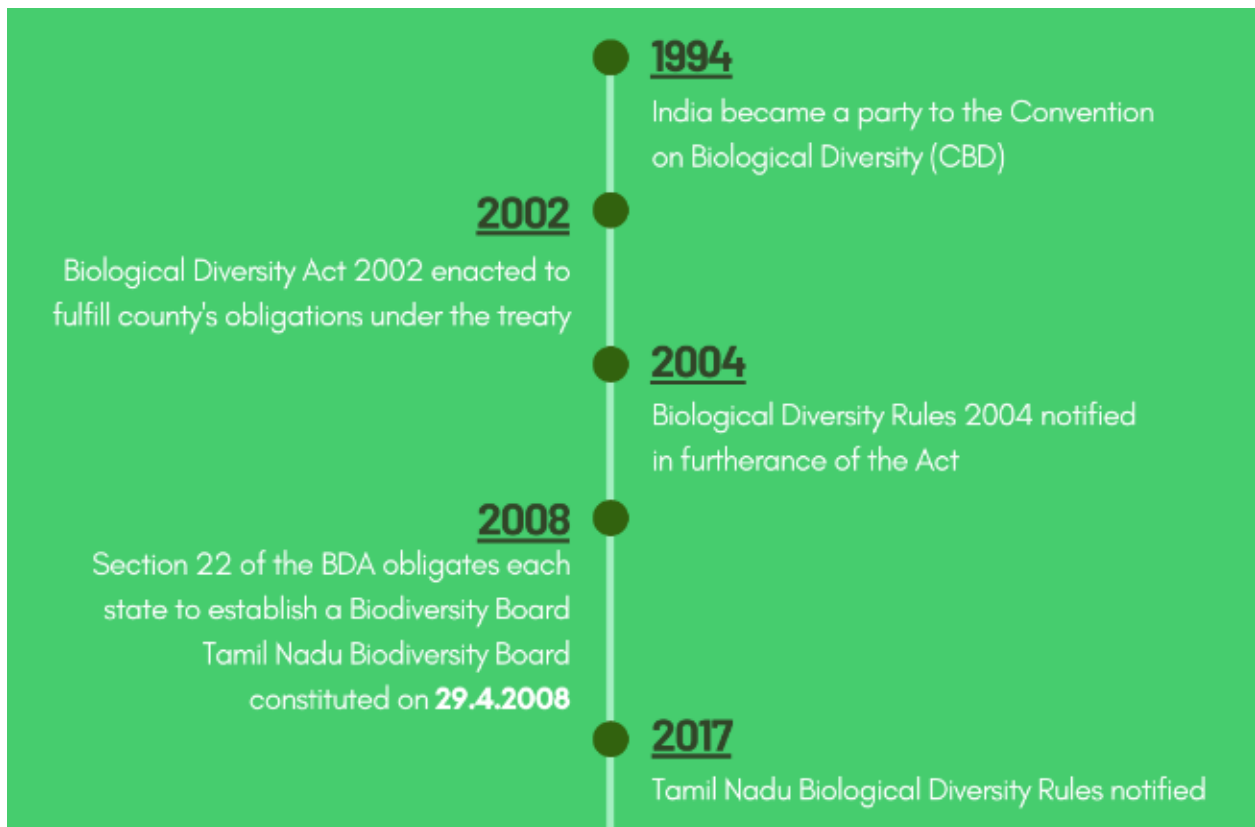
The rich biodiversity of the state is faced with increasing pressure on account of habitat destruction, degradation, fragmentation, overuse of resources, invasion of alien species, pollution and climate change which threatens to push a number of endemic species to the verge to extinction and seriously impact the ecosystem services which are vital to human existence and well-being. While efforts at biodiversity conservation date back to times immemorial, they have been flagship species centric and area-based approaches, at best. The signing of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in 1992 signified the world-wide dawning of the realisation that biodiversity has to be conserved and sustainably used across landscapes.

Towards fulfilment of its national commitments as a signatory to the treaty (CBD), India enacted the Biological Diversity Act in the year 2002. Established in 2008 as per section 22 of the Biodiversity Act 2002, the Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board has come a long way. In course of its journey spanning a period of 13 years, the Board has ensured the constitution of Biodiversity Management Committees across the state and preparation of People's Biodiversity Registers, organized training and capacity building programmes for stakeholders involved in the Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) process, notably the Forest Range Officers (FROs), Block Development Officers (BDOs), District Forest Officers (DFOs) and companies using bio-resources.

Be that as it may, there is still a long way to be traversed before the BMCs are strengthened to become decentralised, grassroot level, self-sustaining institutions for conserving biodiversity on a sustainable basis through community participation, and biodiversity conservation becomes institutionalised and mainstreamed into the planning and programme implementational frameworks of the State. The Board is poised to walk these infant institutions through their teething phase on the path to the envisioned goals, extending necessary handholding support as required.

Genesis of the Board

The Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board was constituted on 29 April 2008 vide G.O. (Ms) No. 38 Environment and Forests (FR-5) Department under Section 22 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002, with the Hon'ble Minister for Forests as the Chairperson of the Board. Since its constitution, senior IFS officers have been appointed as the Secretaries to the Board. The Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Rules were notified on 9 November 2017 through G.O. Ms. No. 137, Environment and Forest (FR-5). The Rules came into effect from 6 December 2017 after which the Board's activities gathered momentum to achieve new heights.



Functions of the Board

Section 23 of the Biological Diversity Act 2002 states the following functions of the State Biodiversity Board:

- a. Advise the State Government, subject to any guidelines issued by the Central Government, on matters relating to the conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of its components and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of biological resources;
- b. Regulate by granting of approvals or otherwise, requests for commercial utilization or bio-survey and bio-utilization of any biological resource by Indians;
- c. Perform such other functions as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act or as may be prescribed by the State Government.

Rule 13 of the Tamil Nadu Biological Diversity Rules 2017 states the following 27 functions:

- i. lay down the procedure and guidelines to regulate the activities provided under Section 7 of the Act; .
- ii. advise the Government, subject to any guidelines issued by the Central Government, on any matter concerning conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of its components and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of biological resource and knowledge;
- iii. provide livelihood support to those villagers, who have shifted or are in the process of shifting from unsustainable livelihoods to sustainable livelihoods or as Trekking Service Providers;
- iv. promote and strengthen individuals and institutions who are already working towards conservation, sustainable use and equitable benefit sharing of biological resources;
- v. provide technical assistance and guidance to various departments of the Government in connection with implementation of provisions of the Act;
- vi. regulate by granting of approvals or otherwise, requests for commercial utilisation or bio-survey and bio-utilisation of any biological resources under the Act by Indians;
- vii. facilitate updating and implementation of State Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan;
- viii. commission studies and sponsor investigations and research; ,
- ix. engage consultants, for specific period, not exceeding three years, for providing technical assistance to the Board in the effective discharge of its functions;
- x. collect, compile and publish technical and statistical data, manuals, codes or guides relating to conservation of biological diversity, sustainable use of its components and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of biological resource and knowledge;
- xi. organise through mass media, a comprehensive programme regarding conservation of biological diversity, sustainable use of its components and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of biological resources and knowledge:
- xii. plan and organise training of personnel engaged or likely to be engaged in programmes for the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components;
- xiii. prepare the annual budget of the Board incorporating its own receipts and also the funds or grants from the Central Government, State Government and National Biodiversity Authority:
Provided that such allocation by the Central Government or State Government or National Biodiversity Authority shall be operated in accordance with the budget provisions approved by the Central Government or State Government or National Biodiversity Authority, as the case may be;
- xiv. approve the en-bloc sanction of the annual budget and work programme;
- xv. recommend to the Government, for creation of posts of the officers and employees of the Board for effective discharge of the functions by the Board and to create such posts, provided that no such post whether permanent, temporary or of any nature, shall be created without prior approval of the Government;
- xvi. approve the method of recruitment to the officers and employees of the Board;
- xvii. take steps to build up database and to create information and documentation system for biological resources and associated traditional knowledge through biodiversity registers

- and electronic databases, to ensure effective management, promotion and sustainable use;
- xviii. give advice and directions to the local bodies, Biodiversity Management Committees in writing for effective implementation of the Act and to facilitate their meaningful participation in all measures relating to conservation, sustainable use and equitable benefit sharing;
 - xix. report to the Government about the functioning of the Board and implementation of the Act and the rules made thereunder;
 - xx. devise methods to ensure protection of rights including intellectual property rights over biological resources and associated knowledge including systems of maintaining confidentiality of such information as appropriate, including the protection of the information recorded in People's Biodiversity Registers;
 - xxi. sanction grants-in-aid and grants to Biodiversity Management Committees for specific purposes;
 - xxii. undertake physical inspection of any activity or work to check whether it is in accordance with the provisions of the Act;
 - xxiii. ensure that biodiversity and biodiversity-dependent livelihoods are integrated into all sectors of planning and management, and at all levels of planning from local to State, to enable such sectors and administrative levels to contribute effectively to conservation and sustainable use;
 - xxiv. award individually or as a group, or both for innovation and contribution in the biodiversity sector of the State;
 - xxv. formulate guidelines to the settlement of disputes between the Biodiversity Management Committees and to evaluate the performance of the Biodiversity Management Committees and annually reward the best performing Biodiversity Management Committee at each level in the State;
 - xxvi. recommend in consultation with the local bodies for notifying the areas of biodiversity importance as biodiversity heritage sites under sub-section (1) of Section 37 of the Act and for the management and conservation of the heritage sites;
 - xxvii. perform such other functions as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of the Act or as may be assigned or directed by the Government from time to time.

Board Members

The Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board (TNBB) was constituted as per the G.O.(Ms) No.38 Environment & Forest (FR.5) Department dated: 29.04.2008 with the following composition:

Sl.No.	Name of the Officer	Designation
1	Hon'ble Minister for Environment and Forests, Tamil Nadu	Chairperson
2	Secretary to Government, Environment and Forests Department	Ex officio Member
3	Secretary to Government, Agriculture Department	Ex officio Member
4	Secretary to Government, Animal Husbandry Department	Ex officio Member
5	Principal Chief Conservator of Forests	Ex officio Member
6	Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Warden	Ex officio Member
7	Dr. A. Manickam, Ph.D. Professor and Head, Department of Bio-Chemistry, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University	Member
8	Dr. P. Thangaraju, Ph.D. Vice Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University	Member
9	Thiru. S. Subramaniam, Member, National Bio-Diversity Authority	Member
10	Dr. S. Natarajan, Head of Department of Botany, PalaniAndavar College of Arts, Palani.	Member
11	Thiru. S. Kondas, I.F.S., Retired Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Chennai.	Member

RECONSTITUTED TAMIL NADU BIODIVERSITY BOARD

The Board was reconstituted in G.O. (Ms) No. 08 Environment & Forest (FR-5) Department dated: 28.01.2020. One of the non-official members, Thiru K. Chidambaram, IFS (Retd.) submitted his resignation and Dr. N. Krishnakumar, IFS., (Retd.) was nominated as member of the Board as per G.O. (D) No.191 E&F (FR.5) Department Dated: 23.12.2020

Sl. No.	Name of Officer	Designation
1.	Hon'ble Minister (Forests)	Chairperson
2.	Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department	Ex officio Member
3.	Principal Secretary to Government, Environment and Forest Department	Ex officio Member
4.	Secretary to Government, Agriculture Department	Ex officio Member
5.	Principal Chief Conservator of Forests	Ex officio Member
6.	Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Warden	Ex officio Member
7.	Dr. D. Narasimhan, Associate Professor, MCC, Tambaram.	Member
8.	Dr. N. Krishnakumar, IFS., (Retd.) Former PCCF (HOFF) (As per G.O. (D) No.191 E&F (FR.5) Department Dated: 23.12.2020)	Member
9.	Mr. T. S. Srinivasamurthy, IFS, PCCF (Retd.),	Member
10.	Dr. C. P. Raj Kumar, Nalam Hospital, Theni	Member
11.	Dr. (Mrs). Jayashree Vencatesan, Care Earth Trust, Chennai	Member
12.	Secretary to Government, Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Department	Permanent Special Invitee
13.	Principal Secretary to Government, Industries Department	Permanent Special Invitee
14.	The Member Secretary, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board	Permanent Special Invitee

Expert Committees

Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board has so far constituted five Expert Committees to guide and advise the Board on different technical matters relating to implementation of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002.

AGRO-BIODIVERSITY

- **Mainstreaming biodiversity**
- **Documentation of traditional practices**

BIODIVERSITY HERITAGE SITES

- **Recommendation of sites to be proposed as BHS**
- **Advisory functions**

ACCESS & BENEFIT SHARING

- **Review of ABS applications**
- **Recommendations on matters related to benefit sharing**



LEGAL ADVISORY

- **Implementation of Biological Diversity Act and related matters**
- **Advice related to legal matters**

BMC CONSTITUTION & PBR DOCUMENTATION

- **Establishment of BMCs**
- **PBR documentation**
- **Capacity building**

Expert Committee on Access & Benefit Sharing

TNBB receives applications for access to biological resources under several sections of the Act, either directly or through the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA). This Committee processes these applications to either recommend or return them. Once recommended, ABS agreements are signed between the applicant and TNBB to ensure that the received benefits are shared with the providers of biological resources.

Expert Committee on Access and Benefit Sharing

Sl.No.	Name of the Member	Designation
1	Dr. D. Narasimhan Associate Professor (Retd.), Madras Christian College	Chairperson
2	Dr. V. ArivudaiNambi- Independent Expert on Biodiversity, Chennai	Member
3	Thiru. S. Elumalai Assistant Professor, School of Excellence in Law, Dr. Ambedkar Law University, Chennai	Member
4	Wildlife Warden, Chennai	Member
5	Secretary Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board	Focal point

The Expert Committee has met several times to provide recommendations regarding the applications received by the Board. The following table depicts the details of the applications processed during the year 2020-2021.

2020-2021

Meeting Date	Number of applications processed	
	NBA	TNBB
22.10.2020	-	6
17.02.2021	4	10

Expert Committee on "Agro-Biodiversity"

The Expert Committee focuses on the aspects of biodiversity associated with agriculture and food. It considers TNBB's activities associated with mainstreaming conservation of agro-biodiversity, conserving agricultural practices and associated traditional knowledge as well as suggesting areas of agro-biodiversity that can be protected as Biodiversity Heritage Sites.

Expert Committee on "Agro-Biodiversity"

Sl.No.	Name of the Member	Designation
1	Ms. Jayashree Vencatesan, Care Earth, Chennai	Chairperson
2	Dr. R. Rangalakshmi, Director, M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation	Member

3	Dr. V. ArivudaiNambi Independent Expert on Biodiversity, Chennai	Member
4	District Forest Officer –Chennai Forest Division	Member
5	Secretary, Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board	Focal point

Expert Committee on "BMC Constitution and Documentation of PBRs"

Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) are the ground-level institutional structures formed under the Biological Diversity Act, 2002. BMCs have important roles and functions under the Act, such as ensuring local biodiversity conservation, sustainable use of bio-resources within their jurisdiction and the documentation of People's Biodiversity Registers (PBRs) which is a dynamic record of all biological resources and associated traditional knowledge and knowledge holders within the jurisdiction of the BMCs. This Committee oversees the constitution of BMCs and the preparation of PBRs by BMCs. It also supports BMCs with their functioning, through trainings and workshops as required.

Expert Committee on "BMC Constitution and Documentation of PBRs"

Sl.No.	Name of the Member	Designation
1	Thiru. Hans Raj Verma, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department	Chairperson
2	Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Protection and Vigilance) and Member Secretary, Tamil Nadu Wetland Authority	Member
3	Chief Conservator of Forests (Research)	Member
4	Deputy Director, Advanced Institute for Wildlife Conservation (Research, Training and Education), Vandalur, Chennai	Member
5	Secretary, Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board	Focal point

Expert committee on "Legal Advisory"

The highly technical nature of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 has led to the formation of the Legal Advisory Committee which advises the Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board on the various provisions of the Act relevant to specific situations. The Act has a very broad scope which can lead to many interpretations by different actors involved in the ABS process. To support the Board on this, the legal advisory committee provides official interpretations of the provisions of the Act in specific situations as required.

Expert Committee on "Legal Advisory"

Sl.No.	Name of the Member	Designation
1	Thiru. K. Chidambaram IFS (Retd.) Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Incumbent till 12.08.2020)	Chairperson
2	Thiru. S. Elumalai Assistant Professor, School of Excellence in Law, Dr. Ambedkar Law University, Chennai	Member
3	Chief Conservator of Forests (Head Quarters)	Member
4	District Forest Officer, Thiruvallur Forest Division.	Member
5	Secretary, Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board	Focal point

Expert Committee on "Biodiversity Heritage Site"

Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board has constituted a committee for examining the proposals for BHS and shortlisting of suitable sites. The Committee meets as and when necessary, scrutinizes proposals and sends reports to the Board.

Expert Committee on "Biodiversity Heritage Site"

Sl.No.	Name of the Member	Designation
1	Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Chief Wildlife Warden	Chairperson
2	Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife)	Member
3	Secretary, Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board	Member
4	Dr. D. Narasimhan, Member, Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board	Member
5	Dr. C. P. Rajkumar, Member, Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board	Focal point

From the various proposals received, 10 sites were shortlisted for further scrutiny as shown below:

Sl. No	Name of BHS selected for Field Inspection	Place / District
1.	Arittapatty	Melur, Madurai
2.	Sambai Uthu & its Recharge Kanmois	Sakkottai, Sivagangai
3.	Vagaikulam	Vagaikulam, Tirunelveli
4.	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University	Telungupalayam, Coimbatore
5.	Sendirakkillai Sacred Grove	Chidambaram, Cuddalore
6.	Unique Paddy Cultivation fields of Kolli Hills	Vazhavanthinadu/Thiruppulinadu, Namakkal
7.	Adyar Poonga	Adyar, Chennai
8.	Papanasam	Papanasam, Tirunelveli
9.	Odiyur and Mudalaiyarkuppam	Cheyur, Kancheepuram
10.	Ethno Medicinal Forest (EMF) or Sugavanam	Pudukottai

The Expert Committee on Biodiversity Heritage Site met on 28.12.2020 to discuss and scrutinize the shortlisted proposals.

S.No	Meeting date	Participants										
1	28.12.2020	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>1. Thiru. Syed Muzammil Abbas, IFS., Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Chief Wildlife Warden</td> <td>Chairperson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Dr. Jayanthi M, IFS, Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Secretary, Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board</td> <td>Member convener</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Dr. D. Narasimhan, Member, Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board</td> <td>Member</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Dr. C.P. Rajkumar, MD, Member, Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board</td> <td>Member</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5. Dr Uma Ramachandran, Consultant, TNBB</td> <td>Consultant</td> </tr> </table>	1. Thiru. Syed Muzammil Abbas, IFS., Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Chief Wildlife Warden	Chairperson	2. Dr. Jayanthi M, IFS, Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Secretary, Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board	Member convener	3. Dr. D. Narasimhan, Member, Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board	Member	4. Dr. C.P. Rajkumar, MD, Member, Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board	Member	5. Dr Uma Ramachandran, Consultant, TNBB	Consultant
1. Thiru. Syed Muzammil Abbas, IFS., Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Chief Wildlife Warden	Chairperson											
2. Dr. Jayanthi M, IFS, Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Secretary, Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board	Member convener											
3. Dr. D. Narasimhan, Member, Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board	Member											
4. Dr. C.P. Rajkumar, MD, Member, Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board	Member											
5. Dr Uma Ramachandran, Consultant, TNBB	Consultant											



BHS committee meeting on 28.12.2020

Meeting highlights:

- Dr. C. P. Rajkumar and Dr. D. Narasimhan explained the site features of three sites namely Arittapatti, Madurai; Vagaikulam, Tirunelveli and TNAU Coimbatore where they have completed the field visits for evaluation, out of a total of 10 sites in Tamil Nadu.
- Field visits to the other seven sites will be undertaken and duly reported.
- The Chairperson highlighted the importance of obtaining consent from the respective land owners of the above-mentioned sites viz. Arittapatti, Madurai, Vagaikulam, Tirunelveli and TNAU, Coimbatore as it is essential for declaring any site as a BHS. He further added that appropriate procedure be followed to obtain prior consent from respective land/site owners.
- With respect to Arittapatti, the ownership is with Tamil Nadu Minerals Limited (TAMIN), Archaeology Department and the Panchayat. No objection certificate would be obtained from the above-mentioned Departments / Panchayat by the TNBB before the public hearing to notify Arittapatti as a BHS site in Tamil Nadu.
- In the case of Vagaikulam Tank, the tank belongs to 3 Panchayats (3 BMCs) though owned by Public Works Department (PWD). The Chairman opined that the initially the concerned Chief Engineer should be informed about the proposed notification of Vagaikulam Tank as BHS and later a meeting with the Principal Secretary, PWD may be convened for the above purpose. The fish resources have to be documented in the Tank before notifying it as a BHS. ATREE, an NGO in Bangalore has its presence in the site and has been working for a long time along with the M.S. University; hence before the public hearing, the PWD/ATREE may be taken into confidence for notifying the Vagaikulam Tank as BHS.
- With regard to Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU) consent is required from the Vice-Chancellor, TNAU. A Committee can be formed with the Director, Plant Genetic Resources as the Chairman and a few members from TNAU to pass a resolution as to which areas in TNAU are to come under the proposed BHS before public hearing and notifying it as BHS.
- Dr. D. Narasimhan, Committee Member opined that with respect to TNAU, there is a clear link with farmers in terms of distribution of seeds and germplasm exchange. In addition, training and dissemination is also undertaken.
- Dr. C. P. Rajkumar, Committee Member, explained that in the case of Arittapatti and Vagaikulam there is a lot of potential for ecotourism. In addition, it supports fishing. However, the fishing potential needs to be explored and rights for fishing very clearly understood.

The Secretary TNBB stated that TNBB will follow up with the above-mentioned Departments/Authorities/Institutes for the Notification of the BHS.

Board Meetings

9th Board Meeting – 17.09.2019

Ninth meeting of the Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board was held in the conference hall of 2nd floor, old secretariat building, Secretariat, Chennai – 9

Meeting highlights and key decisions

- It was appreciated in the meeting that the RDPR department, District Administration & the District Nodal Officers (DFOs) had taken suitable and concerted efforts to constitute the BMCs in time and the KP/TSG members had played a vital role in compiling/sharing the information and the Senior scientists & the Research Assistants of the Task Force and the Board had worked tirelessly in a very professional manner for the preparation of PBR.
- **Reconstitution of the Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board members** –As per G.O (Ms). No. 14 Environment and Forests Department (FR-5) Department dated 31.01.2017, the Tenure of the Non-Official Member had expired on 31.01.2020. The Government reconstituted the TNBB vide in the G.O (Ms). No. 8 Environment and Forests Department (FR-5) Department dated 28.01.2020.
- **TNBB Office Space, and Staff requirements** – The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Department) assured that necessary action would be taken to allot Office space to TNBB in Panagal Maaligai, Saidapet, Chennai – 15.
- **Staff requirement** – The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Department) assured that necessary action will be taken to depute adequate Staff to TNBB to fill up the vacant positions.
- The Board accepted the proposal for seeking necessary financial support from the Government for the purpose of training & capacity building of stakeholders (Rs 50 Lakhs) on Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and to carry out study and research on vulnerable species of flora and fauna in the entire State for the purpose of conservation (Rs 75 lakhs).
- The Hon'ble Minister instructed that funds available with Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department should be utilised for Biodiversity Conservation through the Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board.

Members:

Sl. No.	Name of Officer	Designation
1.	Thiru. Hans Raj Verma, I.A.S., Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department	Ex officio Member
2.	Thiru. Sandeep Saxena, I.A.S., Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Environment and Forests Department	Ex officio Member
3.	Thiru S. Yuvaraj, I.F.S., Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Department) Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Chief Wildlife Warden (Addl. charge)	Ex officio Member
4.	J. Josephine Sahaya Rani, Executive Engineer, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board.	Special Invitee
5.	Dr. D. Narasimhan, Tambaram, Chennai.	Member
6.	Dr. (Mrs). Jayashree Vencatesan, Care Earth Trust, Chennai	Member
7.	Dr. V. B. Mathur, Chairperson, National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai	Special Invitee
8.	A. Mudisoodum Perumal Additional Deputy Secretary to Government, Environment and Forests Department	Special Invitee
9.	Dr. P. V. Seetha Lakshmi, Assistant Director, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, Saidapet, Chennai-15	Special Invitee
10.	Samuel Inbadurai, Additional Director, TNCDW, Chennai.	Special Invitee
11	Thiru. N. Selvam, Under Secretary, Environment & Forest Department, Chennai.	Special Invitee

Activities of the Board

Highlights

- Strengthening of Biodiversity Management Committees
- Preparation and updation of Peoples Biodiversity Register
- Technical Support Group reconstitution
- Access Benefit Sharing – Distribution of funds to benefit claimers
- International Day for Biodiversity 2020 – Celebration
- Appointment of Nodal Officers

Biodiversity Management Committees

The Board is in the process of strengthening the BMCs through capacity building initiatives to make these institutions self-sustainable in carrying out the mandates of the Act.

Designation of secretaries for BMC

The Government has designated secretaries for the Biodiversity Management Committees to carry out its roles and responsibilities as per G.O.(Ms) No.52 E & F (FR.5) Department Dated : 04.09.2020.

S.No	Local body type	Officer designated as Secretary	Designation date
1	District Panchayats	District Panchayat Secretary	04.09.2020
2	Village Panchayats	Village Panchayat Secretary	04.09.2020

Field visit to Kanyakumari District by TNBB team

Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board has selected 90 block BMCs in various districts (each district having at least one model BMC) so as to strengthen them and thereby spread awareness to other BMCs. In this connection, a team from TNBB visited Thiruvattar, Thovalai and Rajakkamangalam blocks of Kanyakumari district and conducted consultation meeting with various stakeholders like AD (Panchayat), Block Development Officers (BDOs), Village Panchayat Presidents and local people in order to facilitate the activation of BMCs in those blocks.



Consultation with BDOs – Kanyakumari District

Field Visit to Thiruvallur District by TNBB team

A team from TNBB visited some of the Village Panchayat BMCs in Tiruvallur district with the objective of making the BMCs more active. The team interacted with the local people and BMC members and also visited a few sacred groves for reconnaissance and to identify the potential and scope for biodiversity conservation activities in those localities.

S.No	Village Panchayat BMC visited
1	Muthukondapuram
2	KaranaiNizampet
3	Thiruvalangadu



Visit by TNBB team – Sacred grove, Muthukondapuram– Thiruvallur

People's Biodiversity Registers

PBR Monitoring Committee

A State Level PBR Quality Evaluation Monitoring Committee was formed comprising subject matter experts to oversee the quality of PBRs in the State of Tamil Nadu as shown below:

S.No	Name	Designation
1	Dr. (Mrs). Jayashree Vencatesan	Chairperson
2	Dr. D. Narasimhan	Member
3	Dr. V. ArivudaiNambi	Member
4	Dr. C. Manjula	Member
5	Dr. Jayanthi. M, IFS	Secretary, Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board

The preparation of draft PBR has been completed successfully for BMCs at all levels, both Urban (Corporation, Municipality, Town Panchayat) and Rural (District, Block, Village). Validation of the PBRs by the respective Biodiversity Management Committees is in progress.

ePBRs

Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board is in the process of digitizing the Peoples Biodiversity Registers that have been prepared. The data collected is being uploaded in BIOMIS (Biodiversity Management Information System) portal.

Preparation of “Peoples Biodiversity Registers” under Special Component Plan for SC

An amount of 25 lakhs was sanctioned for documentation of Peoples Biodiversity Registers by the National Biodiversity Authority for 16 Block Level BMCs which are identified as having more than 40% SC population. A fund of Rs 35000 has been released to each one of the 16 BMCs.

Teams from TNBB visited the BMCs in the districts of Cuddalore, Kancheepuram, The Nilgiris, Thiruvarur and Nagapattinam during the months of January, February and March 2021 for activating the BMCs and to sensitize and enlighten the members on the updation of PBR.

The following table depicts the progress of the work in various districts:

S.No	District	Blocks	Team Leader	Progress
1	Cuddalore	Nallur, Mangalur, Komaratchi, Keerapalayam	Dr. D. Narasimhan	Ongoing
2	Kancheepuram	Chithamur, Maduranthakam, Lathur		
3	The Nilgiris	Coonoor	Dr. Jayashree Venkatesan	Completed PBRs for 6 Villages of Coonoor Block
4	Nagapattinam	Kilvelur	Dr. V. ArivudaiNambi	A training workshop for preparation of PBRs in Nagapattinam and Thiruvarur districts was held in Thiruvarur on 17.02.2021
5	Ramanathapuram	Bogalur		
6	Thiruvarur	Thiruthuraiipoondi, Kottur, Valangaiman, Thiruvarur, Koradacheri		
7	Thoothukudi	Ottapidaram		



Training for PBR updation by Dr ArivudaiNambi - Thiruvavur block



Consultation meeting for PBR preparation & updation in Beratty Village of Conoor Block, Nilgiri District



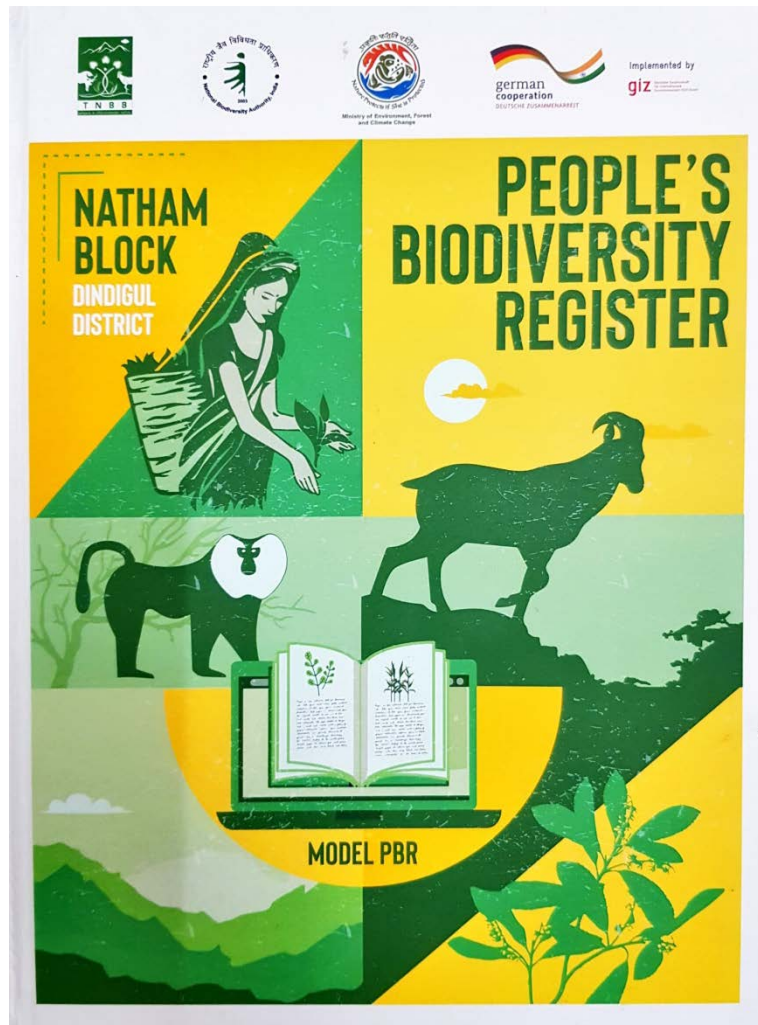
Consultation meeting for PBR preparation & updation in Bandishola Village of Conoor Block, Nilgiri District



Training for PBR updation by- Dr Narasimhan and Dr Manjula - Pachambakkam village - Chengalpattu

PBRs Prepared under TNBB-GIZ ABS Partnership Project

The TNBB-GIZ ABS Partnership project supported 12 model BMCs in Tamil Nadu in 10 districts, namely - Chengam (Tiruvannamalai district), Kariapatti (Virudhunagar district), Mandapam (Ramanathapuram district), Melur and Sedapatti (Madurai district), Natham and Shanarpatti (Dindigul district), Periyakulam (Theni district), Radhapuram (Tirunelveli district), Thiruporur (Chengalpattu district), Thirrupuvanam (Sivagangai district), Thiruvattar (Kanniyakumari district). A comprehensive People's Biodiversity Register was prepared in each of these model BMCs by Covenant Centre for Development (CCD) with the co-ordination and involvement of BMC members, local people, native healers & holders of traditional knowledge and other resource persons in the locality. Apart from the 31 formats specified for PBR, additional information such as Trader/Agency details, Value chain of the bio-resource and stakeholder details have also been captured and documented in the prepared PBRs.



A model PBR prepared for Natham Block, Dindigul District

Technical Support Group

The Government reconstituted the Technical Support Group in each district to assist the Biodiversity Management Committees for its effective management with following members.

1	District Collector	Chairman
2	Project Director, District Rural Development Agency, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department	Member
3	Joint Director, Agriculture Department	Member
4	Joint Director / Deputy Director, Horticulture Department	Member
5	Joint Director / Deputy Director / Additional Director Fisheries Department	Member
6	Joint Director, Animal Husbandry Department	Member
7	Medical Officer, Siddha Medicines, Health Department	Member
8	District Sericulture Officer, Sericulture Department	Member
9	Senior Lecturer / Professor in Botany from local College /University	Member
10	Senior Lecturer / Professor in Zoology from local College /University	Member
11	Sociologist / Social scientist or College Lecturer with Sociology / Social Work specialization	Member
12	Expert in Environmental Science	Member
13	District Forest Officer	Member Secretary / Nodal Officer

The Member Secretary, in consultation with the ex-officio members of the Committee shall nominate the members in S. No.9, 10, 11 and 12 and their term will be two years.

Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS)

Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board receives applications for access to bio-resources under two sections of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002-Section 3 and Section 7. Users who are non-Indians or organisations with non-Indian participation submit their requests for access to bio resources to the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) under Section 3, whereas users or user

organisations registered in India apply directly to the respective State Biodiversity Board (TNBB). NBA forwards applications under Section 3 to TNBB for their recommendations. NBA also forwards applications under Section 6 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 dealing with intellectual property rights to TNBB when necessary. TNBB also receives ABS applications as per Rule 15 of Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Rules, 2017. Under this Rule, TNBB has received 5 Form-1 applications and these ABS applications are being processed. The following table depicts the details of applications received and processed as well as the funds received and distributed.

2020-2021

Number of applications received	Number of agreements signed
18	2

ABS amount

2020-2021

Amount received by TNBB	Received from (Resource user / Company)	Amount Distributed to Benefit claimers
Rs 15000		Rs 16815

Distribution of ABS funds

An agreement was signed between Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board and M/s iSERA Biological Pvt Ltd, Pune on 17th December 2019 with benefit sharing obligation agreed at 5% of the purchase price of the snake venom for three years for procuring Lyophilized form of Venom from Irula Snake Catchers Industrial Co-operative Society Ltd, Kancheepuram for manufacturing anti snake venom. iSERA Biological Pvt Ltd made the upfront payment of Rs. 17,700 to the Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board in January 2020. 95% of this amount (Rs. 16815) was then handed over to the benefit claimers - the "Irula Snake Catchers Industrial Cooperative Society Ltd, Thiruporur" who were identified as benefit claimers in the presence of the ABS Expert Committee of Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board, District Forest Officer, Chengalpattu Forests Division, Kancheepuram District (Nodal officer), Members of Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC), Thiruporur and the Secretary, Irula Snake Catchers Industrial Cooperative Society Ltd, Thiruporur in a meeting held on 17 November 2020. The amount so received will be used by the benefit claimers as per the provisions of the Act and the Rules.



Expert committee visit to evolve modalities for benefit sharing from the royalty amount received from the exporters of Seaweed, Southern Coastal Districts of Tamil Nadu

Background

The Biological Diversity (BD) Act regulates Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) through its Section 21(2). Section 27 of the BD Act specifies that the fund accrued under the National Biodiversity Fund can be utilized for (a) Channelizing benefits to the benefit claimers; (b) Conservation and promotion of Biological Resources; (c) Socio-economic development.

In the present case, the NBA had received a royalty amount of Rs. 43, 57,176 from the exporters (PepsiCo India Holding, Gurgaon and Ganesan & Sons, Tuticorin). After deducting the TDS and the administrative charges (2.5 %), the NBA transferred an amount of Rs. 37, 14, 277 to the TNBB through its Sanction order dated 31st March 2017. An amount of Rs. 92,857 was deducted towards administrative charges of TNBB and the balance amount of Rs. 36,21,420 is available for benefit sharing. Similarly, the TNBB has directly received the royalty amount of Rs. 1,16,588 from the Sea 6 Energy Private Limited, Tuticorin towards the commercial utilization of seaweed for local consumption. An amount of Rs. 5,829 was deducted for administrative charges and TDS and the balance amount of Rs. 1,10,759 is available for benefit sharing. Both these funds were credited to the State Biodiversity Fund (SBF).

Table: 1 Royalty amount received

S.No	Name of the company	SBF Amount received	Administrative amount for SBB	Net amount available for benefit sharing
1	Pepsico India Holdings Pvt Ltd, Gurgaon and Ganesan and Sons, Tuticorin	3714277	92857 (2.5%)	3621420
2	Sea6 Energy Private Limited, Tuticorin	116588	5829 (5%)	110759
Total		3830865	98686	3732179

Section 27(2) of the BD Act specifies that the accrued funds can be utilized for the direct benefit of the fishing community, conservation purposes, and socio-economic benefits in consultation with the local Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs). Since the local BMCs were not established then (during 2010), the amount was available in the National Biodiversity Fund (NBF) of NBA. During the year 2017, the State notified the TN Biological Diversity Rules and the BMCs were constituted at the Panchayat level. Hence the total royalty amount of Rs. 37, 32, 179 available with the TN SBB can be utilized for the benefit of the coastal community. The royalty amount was calculated based on the quantum of bioresources accessed from each village. Table 2 provides details of production of seaweed, percentage of share and the total amount available for undertaking socio-economic activities as decided based on the discussions with the BMC members. The maximum benefit-sharing amount of Rs.33,57,336 is available for the Ramanathapuram district and the benefit-sharing amount is calculated based on the quantum of dry seaweed sold by the SHG cultivators to the buyer from each district.

Table 2 Quantum of production and district wise royalty

S.No	District Name	Total production (tons)	% of share	Proportionate benefits in Rs
1	Thanjavur	18.00	0.57	2411
2	Pudukottai	209.99	6.68	142844
3	Ramanathapuram	2602.68	82.77	3357336
4	Tuticorin	313.83	9.98	207888
Total		3144.50	100.00	3732179

Districts in which ABS amounts are to be distributed:

Benefit Sharing in Thanjavur district

S.No	Village name	Production in tons	% of share	Proportionate benefits in Rs
1	Sethupachatram	4.5	25	6028
2	Manora	13.5	75	18083
Grand total		18	100	24111

Benefit Sharing in Pudukottai district

S.No	Village name	Production in tons	% of share	Proportionate benefits in Rs
1	Muthukuda	4.00	4.22	5358
2	ArasaneriPatinam	3.00	3.16	4018
3	Gopalapatinam	3.00	3.16	4018
4	Kumarappan Vial	2.00	2.11	2679
5	Antonyarpuram	6.00	6.33	8037
6	Mimisal	2.00	2.11	2679
7	Jegathapattinam	34.99	36.91	47848
8	Kottaipatinam	38.80	40.93	65724
9	Avudiyarpattinam	0.87	0.92	2194
10	Palakudi	0.14	0.15	289
Grand total		94.80	100	142844

Benefit Sharing in Ramanathapuram district

S.No	Village name	Production in tons	% of share	Proportionate benefits in Rs
1	Vedalai	110.00	4.41	147343
2	Umayalpuram	60.00	2.41	80340
3	Manaikadu	284.59	11.41	394511
4	T.Nagar	211.16	8.74	283077
5	Thonithurai	243.00	9.74	325495
6	Pamban	25.00	1.00	33444
7	Akkalmdam	135.00	5.41	180757
8	Nallupanai	49.00	1.96	65561
9	Ariyankundu	194.14	7.78	260844
10	Vadakadu	58.00	2.33	77573
11	Parvatham	149.00	5.97	199569
12	Sambai	409.00	16.40	546695
13	Mangadu	253.00	10.14	338890
14	Olaikuda	310.43	12.45	415950
15	Pudupattinam	2.42	0.10	6508
16	Soliyakudi	0.13	0.01	285
17	Veerasingilimadam	0.19	0.01	494
Grand total		2494.06	100	3357336

Benefit Sharing in Tuticorin district

S.No	Village name	Production in tons	% of share	Proportionate benefits in Rs
1	Muthiyapuram	66.00	46.45	88363
2	Mullaikadu	53.08	37.36	88717
3	Hare Island	13.00	9.15	17413
4	Pullaveli	10.00	7.04	13395
Grand total		142.08	100	207888

The Expert Committee and its constitution

The TNBB constituted an Expert Committee (EC) for evolving modalities for Benefit Sharing (ABS) on 17.11.2020 consisting of following members:

1. Prof.D.Narasimhan
Chairman of the Expert Committee
Member, Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board
2. Dr. E. Patterson
Director, Suganthi Devanason Research Institute Thoothukudi
3. Dr. V. Arivudai Nambi
Independent Expert on Biodiversity
4. Dr. B. Sundaramoorthy
Dean, Fisheries University, Thoothukudi
5. Dr. C. Thomson Jacob Independent Expert on Biodiversity, Formerly Biodiversity Policy Consultant, Centre for Biodiversity Policy and Law, National Biodiversity Authority

Terms of Reference (ToR) for the committee:

- Examine and review the 2010 report prepared by the NBA on Socio-economic study on the cultivators of Sea Weeds in the southern coastal Districts of Tamil Nadu with reference to the Implementation of ABS Provisions of the Biological Diversity Act 2002.
- Undertake field visits to the coastal districts of Thanjavur, Pudukottai, Ramanathapuram and Tuticorin, to meet and discuss with the concerned BMCs, field officials and other stakeholders to evolve modalities for monetary and non-monetary benefit-sharing.

Recommendations of Expert Committee for evolving benefit-sharing modalities

5.1 Manora village

- Fixing Reverse Osmosis unit in the local Government school for the benefit of school students
- Tree planting in common lands/open areas/lake and river bunds, notably Palmyrah palm;
- Restoration and desilting village lotus ponds which will help the villagers to grow lotus and trade it to the local buyers; BMCs can levy access fee from the traders;
- The native seaweeds such as VerPasi, KattaKorai and KattiPasi are extensively traded in the local and international market. The trade link needs to be traced out by the SBB/BMCs and the local industries extracting the bioresources should be brought under the compliance mechanism of the BD Act and State Rules.

5.2 Sethubavachatram village

- Value addition techniques such as pickle making, smoking, and drying can be taught to the SHG women for increasing their livelihood options;
- Skill development programs such as hygienic handling of fish, cultivation of native seaweed can be promoted;
- Fixing Reverse Osmosis unit at the PLF Building for the benefit of the SHG women.

5.3 Manalmelkudi

- Ammapettaipanchayat - Seaweed drying yard / thatched roof and godown for storing dried seaweed nearer to the cultivation site;
- Solar lights and solar driers for drying seaweed; Infrastructural facilities for extracting carrageenan/agar plant for value addition through technology transfer;
- Construction of shed on the shore for drying seaweed.

5.4. Mimisal

- Capacity building and awareness programs on Biological Diversity Act, Constitution of BMCs and their roles and responsibilities, Preparation of PBRs for the benefit of BMCs, Government officials, Panchayat leaders etc;
- The native seaweeds/seagrasses like KattaPasi, VerPasi, KoraiPasi and KodiPasi are widely available in these areas and the local varieties can be extensively promoted by the SHGs. The BMCs need to be strengthened in the coastal areas for conserving the coastal bioresources and also for regulating the exploitation of the native seaweed by the local traders;
- Restoration of degraded freshwater inland wetlands/lakes/ponds/temple tanks can be carried out with the help of PWD and the indigenous fish species can be extensively promoted in these inland water bodies for sustaining the livelihood of the local community;
- Co-management practice can be promoted by the BMC by joining hands with the Fisheries department.

5.5 Olaikuda

- Construction of thatched roof, and provision of solar lamps and torch lights
- Expanding PHC and providing adequate facilities in the Government hospitals and schools.

5.6 Mandapam

- Thangachimadam: promote alternative livelihood option through the establishment of a medicinal plant nursery and to facilitate buy-back arrangement;
- Pamban: Thatched roof/shed for drying seaweed and a light tower on the shore;
- Akkamadam: Sea Weed Seed Bank for growers; native seaweed can be extensively promoted and incentive should be given to the cultivators of native seaweed.

5.7 Thoothukudi

- Capacity building and awareness programs on Biological Diversity Act, Constitution of BMCs and their roles and responsibilities, Preparation of PBRs for the benefit of BMCs, Government officials, Panchayat leaders etc;
- Construction of a thatched roof /shed for seaweed growers;
- To provide required Infrastructural facilities for local schools and hospitals; To provide thermocol mini boats (cost around Rs. 5,000) to the local fishermen.



Dr. D. Narasimhan explaining the Biodiversity Act



Dr. Thomson Jacob sharing the details of Benefit sharing amount for different villages

International Day for Biological Diversity

May 22 2020

Due to the COVID-19 related lockdown and regulations, there was little scope to conduct any functions and celebrations. Hence, the Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board celebrated the International Day of Biodiversity virtually (online) by conducting essay writing competitions for the students and the general public.



Government of Tamil Nadu

TAMIL NADU STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD

(Statutory, Autonomous and Regulatory Body of Govt. of T.N.)





announcing **ONLINE ESSAY COMPETITION**
commemorating

International Day for Biological Diversity

May 22 2020

THEME: OUR SOLUTIONS ARE IN NATURE

(in rupees)

S.No.	Category	1st Prize	2nd Prize	3rd Prize	Topic
1	Students from classes 8-10	2500.00	1500.00	1000.00	My talk with birds
2	Students from classes 11 and 12	2500.00	1500.00	1000.00	Trees are our treasure
3	Undergraduate students	5000.00	3000.00	2000.00	The World without wetlands
4	Postgraduate students	5000.00	3000.00	2000.00	Green City: an achievable dream
5	Citizens	5000.00	3000.00	2000.00	Human-animal conflict - Causes and remedies

RULES

- English and Tamil entries will be judged separately
- Maximum of 2500 words (5 pages)
- No photos as a part of the essay will be accepted
- Only original content. Copying will lead to disqualification
- Entries* should reach by **30th May 2020, 5 P.M.**

*Category applicable must be mentioned in the document and in the mail

Mail the entries to: secy.tnbb@tn.gov.in

List of winners will be published on Tamil Nadu Forest Department's website on 8th June, 2020 (evening)
www.forests.tn.gov.in

Issued by Tamil Nadu State Biodiversity Board (TNBB)

Essay writing competition was announced for various categories as shown below:

English

S. No	Category	1 st Prize	2 nd Prize	3 rd Prize	Topic
1	Students from class 8 to 10	2500	1500	1000	My talk with birds
2	Students of class 11 and 12	2500	1500	1000	Trees are our treasure
3	Under Graduate students	5000	3000	2000	The world without wetlands
4	Post Graduate Students	5000	3000	2000	Green City : An achievable dream
5	Citizens	5000	3000	2000	Human-animal conflict: Causes and remedies

தமிழ்

வ. எண்	வகைகள்	முதல் பரிசு	இரண்டாம் பரிசு	மூன்றாம் பரிசு	தலைப்பு
1	8 - 10 வகுப்புமாணவர்கள்	2500	1500	1000	பறவைகளோடுஎன்உரையாடல்
2	11 & 12 வகுப்புமாணவர்கள்	2500	1500	1000	மரங்களேநம்பொக்கிஷம்
3	இளங்கலைபட்டப்படிப்புமாணவர்கள்	5000	3000	2000	நீர்நிலை(wetlands) இல்லாஉலகம்
4	முதுகலைபட்டப்படிப்புமாணவர்கள்	5000	3000	2000	பசுமைநகரம் : ஓர்எட்டக்கூடியஉறவு
5	தமிழகபொதுமக்கள்	5000	3000	2000	மனிதவனவிலங்குமோதல் : கரணங்கள்மற்றும்தீர்வுகள்

The prize winners in each category are as follows:

Winners

Category - Tier 1 - VIII to X Std School Students (Tamil)

Title	1 st Prize	2 nd Prize	3 rd Prize
பறவைகளோடுஎன்உரையாடல்	K.S.Yuki - XI Std, Government High School, U. Ammapatty, Theni District - 623533	J.Swathika , VIII, Shree Vidhyalaya, Gobichettyalayam, Erode	V.Varthika , Muruga Dhanushkodi Girls High School, Tondiarpet, Chennai

Category – Tier 2 - XI & XII Std School Students (Tamil)

Title	1 st Prize	2 nd Prize	3 rd Prize
மரங்களேநம்பொக்கிஷம்	Ashwin Ganesh, XII New Bharath Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Thiruvarur	A.R.Asmita, XI	S.Jayshree, XI N.M.A.M Higher Secondary School, Sivagangai District

Category – Tier 3 – UG Participants (Tamil)

Title	1 st Prize	2 nd Prize	3 rd Prize
நீர்நிலை(wetlands) இல்லாஉலகம்	K.Muthamilselvi UG B.E 4 th Year Government Engineering College, Thanjavur	Bhavasri UG B Tech 2 nd Year College of Fisheries Engineering, Nagapattinam	M.Kesavan UG B.E 2 nd Year Thirupattur

Category – Tier 4 – PG Participants (Tamil)

Title	1 st Prize	2 nd Prize	3 rd Prize
பசுமைநகரம் : ஓர்எட்டக்கூடியஉறவு	A.Britto American College	R.Vishwanathan	V.Suriya ArulmiguPalaniAandavar College

Category – Tier 5 – Citizens (Tamil)

Title	1 st Prize	2 nd Prize	3 rd Prize
மனிதவனவிலங்குமோதல் : கரணங்கள்மற்றும்தீர்வுகள்	Dr. K. Asokan Pappanayakkanpatti	Lovely V	J. Rajeshwari Vilandhai, Thirukovilur

Category – Tier 1 - VIII to X Std School Students (English)

Title	1 st Prize	2 nd Prize	3 rd Prize
My talk with birds	S.Muthu Emerald Valley Public School	P.Divya 10 B, NGP School, Coimbatore	JeferinJabez Christian VII, CS Academy Vallipurathanpalayam, Erode

Category – Tier 2 - XI and XII Std School Students (English)

Title	1 st Prize	2 nd Prize	3 rd Prize
Trees are our treasure	AvantikaSaravanakumar	A.G.Agshaya XI, Sri Vigneswara Mat. Hr. Sec. School, Vilathurai, Kappukadu, Kanyakumari District	A.P.Hariharan XII, G.B.Public School, Melmaruvathur

Category – Tier 3 – UG Participants (English)

Title	1 st Prize	2 nd Prize	3 rd Prize
The world without wetlands	N.Shakunthala	Ceronia.C 3 rd Year, BDS	S.Yogeshwar B.E MIT, Anna University

Category – Tier 4 – PG Participants (English)

Title	1 st Prize	2 nd Prize	3 rd Prize
Green City : An achievable dream	S.P.Sowmiyarithika	P.DivyaBharathi	V.Vignesh
		T.Vaishnavi	M.Naveen Kumar

Category – Tier 5 – Citizens (English)

Title	1 st Prize	2 nd Prize	3 rd Prize
Human-animal conflict: Causes and remedies	Narayanan	Karthikeyan	G.Lalith Kumar

Appointment of nodal officer

Nodal officers have been appointed from stakeholder departments to co-ordinate with Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board for implementation of Biological Diversity Act 2002

S.No	Department	Designated officer	State / District	G.O
1	Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Department	Tmt. K.S. Sivagami Deputy Secretary to Government RD&PR Department, Chennai	State level	G.O(Rt) No.366 RD&PR(CGS.3) Department Dt:18.12.2020
		Dr. M. Manohara Singh Additional Director- RD&PR Department / Director - SIRD	State level	
		Assistant Director(Panchayat)	All districts	
2	Agriculture Department	Additional Director of Agriculture (Research)	State	G.O. (D) No.27 E&F (FR.5) Department Dt:21.01.2021
3	Municipal Administration	Tmt. S Vasanthi Manure Officer	State	Roc.No.6955/2021/OP1 Proceedings of Commissioner of Municipal Administration Dt:17:03.2021
		Thiru. PMN. Mujibeer Rahman Regional Director of	Districts : Chengalpattu, Tiruvallur,	Roc.No.12064/2021/P3 Commissioner of Municipal

	Municipal Administration	Kancheepuram, Cuddalore	Administration Dt:15:02.2021
	Dr. C. Vijayakumar Regional Director of Municipal Administration	Districts : Ranipet, Tirupathur, Thiruvannamalai, Villupuram, Kallakurichi	
	Thiru. K. Uma Maheshwari Regional Director of Municipal Administration	Districts : Thanjavur, Nagapattinam, Tiruvarur, Pudukottai, Perumbalur, Ariyalur, Mayiladuthurai	
	Thiru. K. Saravanakumar Regional Director of Municipal Administration	Districts : Tiruppur, Erode, Coimbatore, The Nilgiris	
	Tmt. A. Sulthana Regional Director of Municipal Administration	Districts : Tirunelveli, Tenkasi, Virudhunagar, Tuticorin, Kanyakumari	
	Thiru. P. Ashok Kumar Regional Director of Municipal Administration	Districts : Salem, Namakkal, Dharmapuri, Krishnagiri, Karur	
	Thiru. K. Rajan Regional Director of Municipal Administration	Districts : Madurai, Sivagangai, Ramanathapuram, Dindigul, Theni	

Audit report

TAMILNADU BIODIVERSITY BOARD		
2nd Floor, TBGP Campus, Tambaram - Velachery Main Road Medavakkam, Chennai, Tamilnadu - 600 100		
Statement of Income and Expenditure for the year ended 31-Mar-2021		
	Particulars	INR
I	Income	
	GRANT IN AID - NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AUTHORITY - Salary & Non Salary	40,12,153
	Sub - Total (I)	40,12,153
II	Other Income	
	Interest on Savings Ac	7,98,091
	Form - 1 Application Fees	2,54,551
	Sub - Total (II)	10,52,642
III	TOTAL INCOME (I + II)	50,64,795
IV	EXPENSES	
	BOOKS AND PUBLISHING EXPENSES	1,170
	BOARD MEETING EXPENSES	2,87,168
	RENT AND MAINTENANCE	3,47,445
	SALARIES AND WAGES - STAFF	22,59,951
	SALARIES AND WAGES - OTHERS	1,90,029
	ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	17,77,918
	DEPRECIATION	2,84,583
	TOTAL EXPENSES	51,48,264
V	Excess of Expenditure over income	-83,469

Financials include Notes forming parts of accounts

As per the Report of Even Date

For SLS ASSOCIATES

Chartered Accountants

Firm Reg. No : 05951S


S. Lakshmisubramanian
Partner


Membership No. : 028927

Place: CHENNAI

Date: 11-12-2021

For Tamilnadu Biodiversity Board


Debasis Jana
SECRETARY


R. Kumaresan
Administrative Officer

TAMILNADU BIODIVERSITY BOARD

2nd Floor, TBGP Campus, Tambaram - Velachery Main Road
Medavakkam, Chennai, Tamilnadu - 600 100

BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31ST MAR 2021

	Particulars	INR	INR
I	EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
1	Reserves and Surplus		
	ACCOUNT OPENING FUND - 2009		1,000
	GENERAL RESERVE		
	Opening balance	1,36,49,013	
	Add : Excess of income over Expenditure	-83,469	
	Less: Unspent amount Return to NBA	8,80,347	1,26,85,197
	GRANT IN AID - NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AUTHORITY - BMC		72,00,000
	GRANT IN AID - NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AUTHORITY - ABS	37,14,277	
	ADD: Received During the Year	59,66,777	
	Less: Amount Spent During the Year	10,40,000	86,41,054
2	Non - Current Liabilities		-
3	Current Liabilities		-
	TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		2,85,27,251
II	ASSETS		
1	Non - Current Assets		
	Fixed Assets		10,45,646
2	Current Assets		
	Short Salary Deductions		1,21,030
	Cash and Cash Equivalents		2,73,60,576
	TOTAL ASSETS		2,85,27,251


Financials include Notes forming parts of accounts


As per the Report of Even Date

For SLS ASSOCIATES

Chartered Accountants

Firm Reg. No : 05951S


S. Lakshmisubramanian
Partner
Membership No. : 028927



For Tamilnadu Biodiversity Board


Debasis Jana
SECRETARY


R. Kumaresan
Administrative Officer

Place: CHENNAI

Date: 11-12-2021

TAMILNADU BIODIVERSITY BOARD

2nd Floor, TBGP Campus, Tambaram - Velachery Main Road
Medavakkam, Chennai, Tamilnadu - 600 100

Receipts and Payments A/c for the year ended 31-Mar-2021

Particulars	INR
I OPENING BALANCE	
BANK ACCOUNTS	2,33,34,454
CASH	16,458
Sub - Total (I)	2,33,50,912
II RECEIPTS	
GRANT IN AID - NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AUTHORITY - ABS	59,66,777
GRANT IN AID - NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AUTHORITY - Salary & Non Salary	40,12,153
Interest on Savings Ac	7,98,091
Form - 1 Application Fees	2,54,551
Salary Deductions	3,37,868
Sub - Total (II)	1,13,69,440
III PAYMENTS	
FIXED ASSETS	1,95,080
GRANT IN AID - SURRENDER - TN GOVT	8,80,347
BOOKS AND PUBLISHING EXPENSES	1,170
BOARD MEETING EXPENSES	2,87,168
RENT AND MAINTENANCE	3,47,445
SALARIES AND WAGES - STAFF	22,59,951
SALARIES AND WAGES - OTHERS	1,90,029
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	17,77,918
District biodiversity	10,40,000
Salary Deductions	3,80,668
Sub - Total (II)	73,59,776
IV CLOSING BALANCE	
BANK ACCOUNTS	2,73,52,589
CASH	7,987
Sub - Total (I)	2,73,60,576

Financials include Notes forming parts of accounts

As per the Report of Even Date

For SLS ASSOCIATES

Chartered Accountants

Firm Reg. No : 05951S



S. Lakshmisubramanian

Partner

Membership No. : 028927



For Tamilnadu Biodiversity Board



Debasis Jana

SECRETARY



R. Kumaresan

Administrative Officer

DEPRECIATION SCHEDULE
As per Income Tax Act for FY 2020-21

Particulars	WDV as on 31/03/2020	Addition		Dele tion s	Total	Rate as per Income Tax Act	Depericati on	WDV as on 31/03/2021
		< 180 days	> 180 days					
Plant & Machiner	51,680				51,680	15%	7,752	43,928
Computer and Components	4,31,560		1,95,080		6,26,640	40%	2,11,640	4,15,000
Furniture and Fixture	6,51,907				6,51,907	10%	65,191	5,86,717
Total	11,35,148	-	1,95,080	-	13,30,228		2,84,583	10,45,645


Secretary
Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board
Chennai - 600 100.


Administrative Officer
Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board
Chennai-600 100



Visits to the Board by experts, important persons

On **09.03.2021** - Dr. D. N. Mohan, IFS, PCCF and Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Biodiversity Board and Dr. Shruti Sharma, IFS, PCCF, Rajasthan called on Ms. Mita Banerjee IFS, APCCF and Secretary, Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board at the office of TNBB and shared their experience with reference to biodiversity conservation in their respective States.



Dr. D.N. Mohan, IFS, PCCF and Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Biodiversity Board and Dr. Shruti Sharma, IFS, PCCF, Rajasthan called on Secretary TNBB

On **23.03.2021** - Dr. A. K. Gupta, IFS, PCCF (Retd.) and member of India Biodiversity Award Assessment committee visited TNBB in connection with field validation of sites shortlisted in Tamil Nadu for India Biodiversity Awards. During the visit he shared his experience with the Tripura Biodiversity Board. The field inspection of the sites was carried out at Ramanathapuram (Sustainable Use of Biological Resources -individual category) and Madurai (Best BMC - Sedapatti Block BMC). The NBA-UNDP Intern from TNBB, Ajeeth A N accompanied the committee during the field validation.



Site validation by Dr. A. K. Gupta, IFS, PCCF (Retd.) – Kaarankadu, Ramanathapuram



Site validation by Dr. A. K. Gupta, IFS, PCCF (Retd.) – Sedapatti Block BMC, Madurai

Officer details

Tenure of secretaries who served the TNBB during the period 2020-2021

S.No	Name of the officer	Designation	Date of joining	Date of leaving
1	Thiru. T.V. Manjunatha, IFS	Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forest and Secretary, TNBB	04.09.2019	18.05.2020
2	Thiru. Ashok Upreti, IFS	Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forest and Secretary, TNBB (Additional Charge)	19.05.2020	18.09.2020
3	Dr. Jayanthi M, IFS	Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forest and Secretary, TNBB	19.09.2020	02.02.2021
4	Selvi. Mita Banerjee, IFS	Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forest and Secretary, TNBB	03.02.2021	-



Acknowledgements

- Dr. Arivudai Nambi
- TNBB Team - Ajeeth A N (NBA-UNDP BSIP Intern) , M Prabakaran (Program co-ordinator)
- Other TNBB staff members

Published by:



Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board

TBGP Campus, II Floor
Velachery-Tambaram Main Road,
Nanmangalam, Chennai - 600100

